

**To:** Stilman, Terry[Stilman.Terry@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Burns, Francis[Burns.Fran@epa.gov]  
**From:** Chase, Kelley  
**Sent:** Fri 1/10/2014 11:04:53 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Question regarding possible impact to Ohio River and their drinking water intakes?

Hi Terry –

Sorry for not getting back to you earlier. I don't have any more regarding the potential for the spill to get to the Ohio. I passed on your concern. Things are fairly hectic at this time. I would expect we'll have more details soon.

## Ex. 5 - Deliberative

For now, I thought the info below from a recent update may be of interest.

Thanks – Kelley

Kelley A. Chase

EPA Region 3

On-Scene Coordinator

267-273-8859 cell

**Subject:** HOTSITE REPORT: Update - Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV

OSCs Matlock and Linden are stationed in Charleston, WV and reported on the spill of 4-methylcyclohexane methanol from Freedom Industries into the Elk River. The WV Department of Environmental Resources (WVDEP) is the lead for the incident and has worked with the owner of the facility to establish a more aggressive strategy to control the source of the contamination. The facility has placed boom in the river to collect the material before it moves downstream. Working to interrupt subsurface water flow into the river, the facility has deepened on-site trenches to capture the leachate that is presently in the soil downgradient from the leaking tank. Even with these measures, some leachate continues to enter the river.

Today the facility received a threat that prompted the local/state police and FBI to secure access to the facility. After investigating the threat, the police later this afternoon ramped down their presence.

WVDEP has requested EPA assistance in developing addition air and water monitoring strategies. EPA is working with its contractor to develop the appropriate sampling for the chemical so the sampling can start as soon as possible. The on-site OSCs will also be working with the FEMA IMAT team who are scheduled to arrive today. In addition, EPA Region 3 personnel will be staffing the FEMA response center in Philadelphia through the weekend on a 24 hours basis.

WVDEP reported that the water company, WV American Water Corporation, is collecting samples. DuPont developed a drinking water sample and analytical method for this chemical, which was shared with the WV Department of Health and Human Resources so both labs can run samples simultaneously. The DuPont has a facility ten miles downstream from the leak and has detected the chemical in their water system.

EPA Region 3 convened a meeting of the Regional Incident Coordination Team this morning. The team discussed questions raised by FEMA concerning EPA's authorities and discussed the status of the water treatment plants. The water treatment plants are attempting to eliminate the chemical through systematic flushing. As of early today, the flushing process had not yet begun and there is not an estimate of when the water will be safe.

**From:** Chase, Kelley  
**Sent:** Friday, January 10, 2014 1:59 PM  
**To:** Stilman, Terry  
**Subject:** FW: Question regarding possible impact to Ohio River and their drinking water intakes?

Hi Terry –

Made a few calls/e-mails. Hoping to be able to get back to you with some additional info soon.

Thanks – Kelley

**From:** Chase, Kelley  
**Sent:** Friday, January 10, 2014 1:49 PM  
**To:** Wisniewski, Patti-Kay  
**Cc:** Matlock, Dennis; Linden, melissa; Burns, Francis  
**Subject:** Question regarding possible impact to Ohio River and their drinking water intakes?

Hi Patti –

I have the daytime phone duty today and have been receiving various calls – mostly from other govt agencies – regarding the impact of the Freedom Industry spill.

One question came from our R4 folks who were hoping to determine whether we expect impact to the Ohio River?

From our earlier call, I understand that at this time we have limited info on the concentrations in the rivers directly impacted (Elk and Kanawha). Would you let me know whether you have any additional info that may help answer concerns regarding the Ohio? I copied our OSCs in the field – but am trying not to call them with too many questions.

Thanks – Kelley

Kelley A. Chase

EPA Region 3

On-Scene Coordinator

267-273-8859 cell